

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**

301 State House
(317) 232-9855

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6191

BILL NUMBER: SB 89

DATE PREPARED: Jan 31, 2002

BILL AMENDED: Jan 31, 2002

SUBJECT: Display of "In God We Trust" Motto in Public Schools.

FISCAL ANALYST: Chris Baker

PHONE NUMBER: 232-9851

FUNDS AFFECTED: **GENERAL**
 DEDICATED
 FEDERAL

IMPACT: No Fiscal Impact

Summary of Legislation: (Amended) This bill requires a school corporation to display the motto of the United States worded "In God We Trust".

Effective Date: July 1, 2002.

Explanation of State Expenditures:

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures: (Revised) *Under the bill, school corporations would not be allowed to use any public funds but may accept donations to cover the costs of this proposal.* School corporations not currently displaying the motto of the United States, "In God We Trust", would be required to display the motto of the United States. School corporations would be responsible for finding non-public funds to cover the cost of an 11" X 14" poster displaying the motto of the United States (plus frame) for every instructional classroom in each school corporation.

Background: There are currently 294 school districts in Indiana with approximately 1,960 public schools.

It is possible to approximate the number of public school classrooms in Indiana by utilizing full time equivalency (FTE) data for teachers. However, the FTE data may overstate the total number of classrooms, as some classrooms may have more than one teacher assigned. School year 2000-2001 FTE for teachers was 59,202.

With respect to 11" X 14" motto of the United States posters, information obtained indicates a per-poster price of approximately \$3.

Background Information: Mississippi Initiative- Mississippi House Bill 51 was passed in the 2001 session of the Mississippi Legislature. The bill provided that all schools in Mississippi would be required to display the motto of the United States. The bill was signed into law by the Governor. Additional information from the American Family Association indicates that a professional printing firm in Mississippi printed the required copies of the motto of the United States for the 32,000 classrooms, auditoriums, and student dining areas in Mississippi schools free of cost to the schools.

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected:

Local Agencies Affected: School corporations.

Information Sources: Indiana Department of Education, IDOE SAS and ORACLE data tables; www.state.ms.us; American Family Association.